

High Court Shows South Supreme Court Upholds Constitutional Loophole Limit On Negro Jurymen

P.M. 6-5-48
N.Y., N.Y.
**One Negro on
A Jury Satisfies the 14th
Amendment**

By JOHN T. MOUTOUX
P.M.'s Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 5.—The U. S. Supreme Court has shown anti-Negro states how they can "comply" with the 14th Amendment of the Constitution (no discrimination on the basis of race, creed, or color) and with anti-discrimination rulings of the court, itself, without doing too much violence to their race prejudices.

It has told these states, in effect, that while no Negro on a jury won't satisfy the 14th Amendment, one will be all right.

In a 6-3 decision, the court yesterday upheld a death sentence penalty for L. C. Atkins, Texas Negro, who had appealed to the High Court on the ground of racial discrimination.

He charged that the jury commissioners of Dallas County, Tex., had "deliberately, intentionally, and purposely limited the number of the Negro race on the jury to one."

In upholding the action of the jury commissioners, the majority decision of Justice Stanley Reed said:

"Fairness in selection (of a jury) never has been held to require proportional representation of races upon a jury. Purposeful discrimination is not sustained by a showing that on a single grand jury the number of members of one race is less than one race's proportion of the eligible individuals."

Reed explained that the Court's past anti-discrimination rulings were based on the theory that exclusion of Negroes from jury lists in communities where many Negroes lived indicated discrimination and not on the theory that racial groups must be recognized."

Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone and Justices Hugo L. Black and Frank Murphy dissented.

In a strongly worded dissenting opinion, Justice Murphy pointed out that, prior to the Supreme Court's decision in Hill vs. Texas, no Negroes ever served on a grand jury in Dallas.

"In an attempt to comply with that decision," Murphy continued,

"the jury commissioners who selected the grand jury panel were careful to appoint one Negro to a 16-member grand jury . . .

No Compliance

"But that fact alone does not guarantee compliance with the 14th Amendment. . . .

"Racial limitation no less than racial exclusion in the formation of juries is an evil condemned by the equal protection clause."

The Justice contended that "if a jury is to be fairly chosen from a cross-section of the community, it must be done without limiting the number of persons of a particular color, racial background, or faith—all of which are irrelevant factors in setting qualifications for jury service."

Murphy then showed, by quoting the jury commissioners themselves, how deliberately one Negro and not one more was chosen for the grand jury panel that indicted Atkins.

Commissioner Wells testified: "We had no intention of placing more than one Negro on the panel. When we did that, we had finished with the Negro."

Just One

Commissioner Tennant testified: "We three did not go to see any other Negroes. That is the only one I did not have any intention of putting more than one on the list."

Commissioner Douglas said: "Yes, sir, there were other Negroes we selected; we did not talk to them, and our intentions were to get just one Negro on the grand jury."

Justice Murphy then remarked: "Clearer proof of intentional and deliberate limitation on the basis of color would be difficult to produce."

Chicago, Ill.
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Supreme Court today upheld the right of the states to make deliberate token placement of Negroes on jury panels and remain within the law.

In a six to three decision the high court refused to set aside the murder conviction of L. C. Atkins, Dallas Negro, on a plea that only one Negro was permitted to serve on the Grand Jury which indicted him. Atkins, under death sentence for the murder of V. Morris of Dallas in September, 1941, won a hearing in the Supreme Court after the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals had confirmed his conviction.

Atkins contended that the "deliberate" placing of but one Negro on the 1943 Dallas County Grand Jury deprived him of his Constitutional right. He also charged that a vacancy on the bench of the Dallas Criminal District court had been filled illegally under Texas law.

Justice Murphy Dissents

Texas denied Atkins' allegations contending that he had failed to prove "discrimination" in the selection of the 1943 Grand Jury.

Justice Stanley Reed wrote the opinion. Justice Frank Murphy wrote the dissent.

Reed said the majority was not convinced that the "Commissioner deliberately and intentionally limited the number of Negroes on the Grand Jury list."

"The judge who heard the witnesses on the motion to quash did not find that type of discrimination."

"The law of their state, the instructions of the Judge, their office required them to choose prospective jurors on their statutory qualifications and without regard to their color or the number of representatives of various races who might appear upon the list. We cannot say the commissioner violated the obligations."

"This conclusion makes it unnecessary to decide whether a purposeful limitation of jurors by race to the approximate proportion that the eligible jurymen of the race so limited theirs to the total eligibles, is invalid to the 14th Amendment."

This agreeing with the majority's claim that there had been no deliberate intent to discriminate Justice Murphy in his dissent said, "The Commissioner's declaration that they did not intend to discriminate and their other inconsistencies cited by the court fade into insignificance beside the admitted and obvious fact that they intended and did limit the number of Negroes on the jury panel."

"By limiting the number to one they thereby excluded the possibility that two or more Negroes

might be among the persons qualified to serve. All those except the one Negro were required to be of white color.

"At the same time, by insisting upon one Negro they foreclosed the possibility of choosing 16 white men on the panel. They refused to bring discrimination, the factor of color in selecting the jury personnel. To that extent they had disregarded petitioners' rights to equal protection of the law. To that extent they have ignored the ideals of the jury system."

Asks All-Negro Juries To Try Ga. Murder Cases

9-22-45
By JOHN LEFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MACON, Ga.—Declaring that all-Negro juries would more effectively deal with Negro homicide cases, Solicitor General Charles H. Garrett of Bibb county advocates the selection of colored jurors exclusively for such trials, if possible under the law.

Pointing out the alarming number of murders among Negroes in Bibb county alone, Garrett believes that the large South-wide toll in Negro killings is retarding the social, and perhaps, the economic progress of the colored group and the entire South.

He advised the Defender that there has recently been, and continues an "epidemic" of Negro homicides "wherein one Negro kills another."

White Juries Biased

The solicitor general further stated that "there are twelve such cases on our present trial calendar in Bibb county, of which Macon is the county seat. I have made the statement that I thought it would be well, if possible, to have an entire panel of Negro jurors to try such cases, if such jurors were carefully selected from among those of that race who have pride in the race and an appreciation of the responsibility of jurors."

Garrett explained that his opinion was based upon the fact that sentences usually imposed in homicide cases involving only Negroes do not meet the penalty requirements that the crime should exact. He intimated that all-white juries are not seriously interested in Negro murder cases and fail to carefully weigh their responsibility to society in passing sentence upon a Negro who has killed a member of his race without just cause.

The prosecutor's statement about mixed juries indicated a belief that Negroes who serve on such bodies are more or less influenced by what the white jurors may decide. He asserted that in the instance of a well qualified all-Negro jury in Negro homicide cases more interest would be taken in the "affairs" of the race; that the results would be better for society and "the responsibility for such conditions would be placed exactly where it belongs."

Selection Difficult

The solicitor general added that "such arrangement would stimulate in the Negro a proper ambition to improve the moral quality of the race as a whole, relieve white jurors of such responsibility and of much of their present jury duty, and make for the improvement of conditions generally."

Garrett said that he believes that the drawing of an all-Negro jury in Bibb county would be incapable of accomplishment "because all jurors must be drawn by lot from the jury box for each session of the court and cannot be drawn with any reference to the character of cases that may come up for hearing at that session." He suggested "separate" jury boxes for the selection of white and Negro jurors as a means of providing an all-Negro jury but quickly admitted such a plan to be unconstitutional.

In a case which reached the Georgia Supreme court a number of months past, the Bibb county jury system was attacked and charged with affording Negro citizens only a token representation among the jurors of the country.

42-1945

Alabama

**Negro Youth Confesses
Burglaries, Officers Say**

A 13-year-old Negro boy taken into custody by City Detectives H. C. Neil and O. B. Wilson has admitted participating in several burglaries of residences and business houses in the Ensley section, the detectives said today.

The officers said the boy led them to several of the places he admitted having burglarized and a considerable amount of stolen loot was recovered following his arrest. He was turned over to Juvenile Court authorities. Police Sgt. L. W. Moore and Radio Patrolmen W. R. McRee and L. E. Bowden participated in the investigation and arrest.

Did Maryland Frame Negro Youths?

By EUGENE GORDON

BALTIMORE.—Progressives here are roused by rumors from Maryland's Eastern Shore that two Negro youths, Holbrook and Weldon Jones, 18 and 15, respectively, may be victims of one of the cleverest and most cold-blooded murder frameups in the history of the South. Holbrook was sentenced to hang and Weldon to life imprisonment.

Persons here interested in the case are careful not to jump to conclusions, one way or another in this complicated case, for they have no proof that the rumor is true. But a thorough reading of the official transcript in the recent trial of the boys at Salisbury, Wicomico County, Md., in March, convinces me that the rumor certainly could be true.

There is strong enough possibility, at any rate, to prompt the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to dispatch trained investigators to Deals Island, Md., scene of the shooting last January of Raynor Graham, wealthy oyster packer.

Graham was allegedly found dead by his 16-year-old daughter June and 20-year-old William Webster, on the night of Jan. 12, in front of the Graham garage. Witnesses admitted that the body could have been placed there. He had been killed by a bullet from a .22 rifle. 5-6-45

BOYS FIRED UPON

The story as pieced together from Wicomico County court records and the Jones boys' talks with W. A. C. Hughes, attorney retained by the Baltimore NAACP, is this. They "stole" their father's shotgun and went duck-hunting along the beach of Deals Island on Friday, Jan. 12, last. One of the boys shot a duck and they borrowed a boat, tied up at a nearby landing, to row out and get their kill.

A young white man saw them and yelled that it was his boat and that if they didn't bring it back immediately he would shoot them. He then fired at them with a .22 calibre rifle. They forgot the duck and cut in toward the shore. They deserted the boat and darted into the marshy undergrowth.

The young white man ran after them around the curve of the beach, shouting and shooting. He fired three shots, stopping to reload after each firing. He finally cornered the boys, who pleaded with him to quit. One of them, to protect themselves, fired at their pursuer. (It was later revealed that his temple had been "creased" by a birdshot.) He turned and ran. They went to the nearby town of Chance, hiding their gun on the way.

The parents were satisfied that the boys had not "attacked" any woman. They all went to bed. The sheriff had not said anything about a shooting, so the Jones family did not have that worry. But they were awakened by the state police sometime during the night. The boys were arrested for murdering Raynor Graham and for assaulting one Kenneth Willing "with a dangerous weapon." 5-6-45

Kenneth Willing turned out to be the young man who had fired at the boys with a .22 rifle.

What is the rumor which aroused the Maryland Communist Political Association, the NAACP and numerous civic and religious leaders of Baltimore? It is that Graham was accidentally shot by Kenneth Willing's firing at the Jones brothers. The rumor quotes a white man, acquainted with all the principals, as saying he witnessed the accidental shooting.

That witness was not the only one, however, according to this rumor. Other white men, seeing the accident and wishing to protect the white youth are said to have removed Graham's body to the front of his garage. His daughter, sent by her mother to seek her father, found the body there. She was accompanied by a white woman, who had bitten the finger of one of the boys "right to the bone."

They reached home around 9 o'clock, just about a half hour after the sheriff had been there. They hid the shotgun, then only feeling of guilt seeming to be that they had taken it without their father's permission. Their mother asked one of the boys to let her see his hands. Not knowing why, he showed them. She then explained that the sheriff had charged them with "attacking" a white woman, who had bitten the finger of one of the boys "right to the bone."

There was no sign of a bite on any of their fingers.

in her search by young Webster, a neighbor.

"RAPE" ANGLE DROPPED

The brothers were not indicted for "attacking" the white woman. Newspapers at first played up the "rape" angle. They dropped it in later editions. The charge of "assault with a dangerous weapon" was also dropped. The brothers were tried solely on the charge of murdering Graham. They were convicted on purely circumstantial evidence.

The circumstantial evidence even is full of contradictions. The Jones brothers, for example, were traced by their footprints. Yet Samuel R. Sherwell, of the state police, admitted on cross examination that nobody had bothered either to fit the boys' shoes into the footprints or to have casts made. This same officer admitted that the "voluntary confession" signed by the boys took from two to two-and-a-half hours to be extracted from one of them.

Officers under cross-examination admitted that there were four .22 calibre rifles in the town but that no effort had been made to check them with the bullet that killed Graham.

These discrepancies in the circumstantial evidence, and the fact that the change of venue asked for by defense was not granted, provide defense grounds for demanding a new trial. Whether or not anything comes out of the investigation of the frameup rumors, the people of Baltimore are flooding Gov. Herbert C. O'Connor with requests for a new trial.

Hold Chicago Hate Club Killers On \$45,000 Bond

Chicago, Ill. Four white juvenile race-hate killers were held here this week on \$45,000 bond charged with the murder of 16-year-old Howard Canty, Englewood High school student.

Members of an anti-Negro gang which swarmed over Canty and his two companions as they left their part-time jobs at Alden's Chicago Mail Order company, the four Klan-minded youths were nabbed by police after an intense search to halt the spread of race friction. 1-2-48

Canty's confessed killer was John Ricci, 17, who frankly admitted firing the fatal shot from a parked auto while some 15 of his gang stoned and kicked the Negro high school students.

Held with Ricci on charges of murder and conspiracy to murder were Fred Bartuch, 18, key "muscle man" of the race-hate "murder club"; Patrick Galloway, 17, and Patrick Cardy, 18.

Admits Attack

Captain Jerome Looney, who conducted the arrests, stated that trial of the four youth would be held on June 1. He said that the arrest of the killers, all of whom admitted taking part in the fatal attack, marked the end of the threatened race friction.

Nabbed by Warren avenue police on an anonymous tip from an aged Italian woman, Bartuch revealed the names of 12 other hoodlums who joined in the attack on Canty and two other Negro youths. 6-2-48

He broke down under questioning by Assistant State's Attorney James Condon, after he was identified by Othelia Brown, 6514 Rhodes avenue, a friend of Canty, who saw the assault.

Bartuch admitted to Police Captain Jerome Looney after five hours of questioning that he was one of the leaders of the "Brigadiers Club" which was devoted to beating up Jews and Negroes.

He said he had joined in the anti-Negro attack in front of the Chicago Mail Order company, at 511 S. Paulina but denied that he fired the fatal shots that killed Canty. He claimed he did not know who had the death gun.

The arrest of Bartuch was credited to Ira Latimer, secretary of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, who personally probed the race incident which threatened to become the most explosive race

killings since the 1919 race riots. He demanded the arrest of Bartuch after getting a tip on the "Brigadiers Club" from an Italian woman who refused to divulge her name. He gave the name of Bartuch to Police Commissioner James Allman during a meeting at City Hall on the murder.

Bartuch was picked up shortly afterward and was identified by Miss Brown and a white girl who worked in a hospital near the scene of the killing. His confession came several hours later. Late Thursday night, police were picking up all the members of the gang named by Bartuch.

Calmly, without a sign of nervousness, Ricci told the Chicago Defender how he shot and killed Canty, an Englewood High school student, when a gang of white boys attacked the three Negro boys as they left their part-time jobs.

"One of them was running away and some guy yelled, 'Shoot, shoot!' so I shot him," Ricci said. "We did it to get even," he added. "Some colored boys beat up a white boy and we were going to teach 'em a lesson."

Ricci told how the same gang beat up some Jewish boys at Manley High school recently.

2 Years High School

"The Jews were beatin' the wops," he said, "so we beat them."

He denied that he belonged to the "Brigadiers," an "athletic" club, which spear-headed the attack on the Negro youths. "A gang of guys got together and I was with them."

Ricci said he had finished two years of high school and that he had known one or two Negro boys there.

"What did you think of them?"

"They were o.k. There are good and bad in all colors and races," he added.

"What do you think of Hitler and Mussolini?"

"They got what they deserved."

"But wasn't your gang doing the same thing that Hitler and Mussolini did?"

Nothing on Conscience

"We just wanted to teach them a lesson. They beat up a white guy." 6-2-48

"Did any of you see that?"

"No, but we heard about it."

Ricci has a brother and a sister and said that his mother felt "very bad" about the whole thing. He said he had no idea what was going to happen to him.

"But I got nothin' on my conscience," and he looked as if he meant it.

Canty's murderers were from a gang of hoodlums all dressed in white shirts and dark pants. They were armed with clubs, guns and knives and they had beaten up several Jewish youths the week before killing Canty.

Caught coming out of the Chicago Mail Order company with 150 of his white fellow workers, Canty, with three Negro employees was snatched apart, slugged and shot.

Pupil Killed by AFRO-AMERICAN Young White Mob

CHICAGO (ANP) — A young white mob, all of Italian descent, with a record of beating colored and Jewish youths, was rounded up last week by police, following the brutal slaying of an Englewood high school pupil and the slugging of his two companions.

The youths were charged with shooting to death Howard Cantry, 16, and slugging his pals, Leonard Moore, 16, and William Thomas, 17, reported to be in a serious condition at the Cook County Hospital. Miss Othelia Brown, another high school part-time worker, witnessed the attack.

Arrested on Woman's Tip
The three colored boys were attacked by the youthful mob when they left their part-time jobs at the Chicago Mail Order Company en route home. The Civil Liberties Committee, the police department, and civic organizations acted promptly to avoid a possible clash between the races.

A tip furnished by an unnamed aged Italian woman led police to Fred Bartuch, 18, alleged leader of the mob known as "The Brigadiers." Bartuch said John Ricci fired the shot which killed Cantry, and Ricci said he got the gun from Anthony Pomonis, 14.

Information supplied by Bartuch and Ricci led to the arrest of other members of the mob. Prior to Cantry's death, the same group was alleged to have beaten several Jewish children, and became a terror to other non-whites.

FORT WORTH, TEXAS
PRESS

City D. 38,443

JUN 27 1945

Employment Found For 300 Negro Boys, Girls

During the past three weeks, more than 300 Negro boys and girls between the ages of eight and 18 have been helped to find employment through the Crime Prevention Society, according to Rev. M. W. Knox, director.

Aside from its employment service, the society is reducing juvenile delinquency by providing wholesome outdoor recreation for members of the society and of the Junior Commandoes Club.

They Make War On Children

Kingston, Jamaica

One effect of the war is that it is producing an increasing number of juvenile criminals. Recently we published a review, by George Padmore, of the British Commission on War and Youth, and the findings of that Committee made very startling reading.

Writers see in the alarming increase in juvenile delinquency an indication of the increase in crime waves which society will have to combat in the future.

One of the suggested causes is that owing to the large scale employment of juveniles who ought to be in school instead, because war production has absorbed all available adult help, or such of it as has not been already drafted into the armed forces, children now find themselves in the possession of financial independence and often without will parental guidance.

It is estimated that in the United States of America alone the high schools have lost to wartime jobs some 1,000,000 children of school age.

The British Commission, presided over by Lord Chief Justice Viscount Caldecote, in their publish Report state that among the youth of Britain 'religious faith has gone, and moral standards are fast going.'

A cross-section survey by the United States Children's Bureau shows that in the United States the situation has been growing increasingly worse for several years. The rise in juvenile crime was 16 per cent between 1940 and 1942, increased to 33 per cent in 1943, and showed another steep rise in 1944.

Youths of from 16 and 21 produce one-fifth of the criminals in the United States of America, although they represent only one-eighth of the

total population of persons world for all that potential loss over fourteen. This age by saying, "that was no what group came before the crim-we intended; we did not plan inal courts twice as often as that it should have that adults of 35 to 39 three times effect." In order to create as often as those of 45 to 49 markets for manufactured and five times as often as goods, to liquidate unemployment in countries operating About one-half of all auto-under a capitalist economy mobile thefts, two-fifths of a land to find investment for burglaries, and one-quarter of surplus capital it is necessary to all robberies were committed create wars, so then you make by youths according to the statistics of the United States whole structure of civilised society in order to satisfy the demands for industrial expansion, but not as a service to society, merely as a means of securing greater profits, for creating more capital still, sowing the seeds of future wars thereby, to satisfy lust for a aggrandisement of a few.

A noteworthy fact is that in the great majority of cases involving criminal offences among youths, what is known as 'criminal intent' is not indicated. This would seem to show that if these kids had the right sort of influence and guidance they would not have come to that pass. It is in that statement that we have the probable clue to the solution of this enormous social problem. Education (as opposed to repressive methods) is the obvious answer.

It poses the question, are those responsible going to use approved methods of treatment rather than resort to amputation? Sending a child to prison for an offence can have, in nine cases out of ten, only one effect; to make a criminal of him, to confirm him in that role for life. That is the process of the ugly spectre of WAR amputation. But there is no need to amputate if a remedy is at hand.

Much has been written about the problem of Nazism and youth after the war; what to do with them; can you re-educate a whole nation; but when the whole situation comes to be reviewed that will be found to be only a fraction of the entire problems. War has laid its blight upon the youth of the world, that is the staggering indictment that the war-mongers have got to face; and they cannot indemnify the

Boy Who Struck Officer Sent to Institution

A 14-year-old Negro boy, charged with hitting R. E. Kahn, a plainclothes police officer, in the back of the head with a brick, has been committed to the State Industrial School for Negro Boys in Hanover County for an indefinite period, after a hearing in Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. The boy is not a Richmond, police said, and is believed to have come here from North Carolina.

Officer Kahn said he was struck with the brick Wednesday morning when he started to take the 14-year-old and a companion, 15, in custody because they were in possession of a car belonging to Harvey McMillan Lyon, of the 3800 block Alma Ave. A car theft charge against the older boy is to be heard August 21.

hours after the holdup, told police they were merely carrying out an errand and one of them, Welch Long, 19, led officers to the hotel where the money was recovered. Deputy Sheriff Dan Kean said when he picked up Long, acting on a tip, the youth said: "You know for once in my life I sure am glad to see the law." Long said he had given the other boy, Bill Hook, 17, a dollar for accompanying him on the errand to which he was summoned to fulfill in a phone call from a Captain A. Jackson. He said Jackson instructed him to deliver the money to a cafe, but he was unable to find it.

Youths Hold Up Oklahoma City Bank And Get \$13,505 In Box Without Even Using Weapons

After the two had gone, Mrs. Phillips, called bank officials and an alarm was sounded. The note here about a bank robbery which the youths had given the cashier netted two teen-age youths \$13,505, was signed by Matt Kimes, an escaped convict, and ordered the teller to give the two bearers the box filled with money and \$500 for themselves for carrying out the holdup. The note said that "this messenger" was a representative of the Mrs. Kimes gang and that he and three other members of his gang were in the bank ready to shoot if instructions were not carried out. The two youths, captured three

Boy, 10, Kills Girl, 9, Claiming Brick Assault

2-20-45

ATLANTA, Ga.—(SNS)—

A ten year-old boy killed his nine year-old girl playmate Tuesday using a .22 calibre rifle. This was the ninth where a race member was killed by another, and was the eighth where a race member was slain by another. It was the third of the month, within a period of the last five days.

2-20-45

Dead is Katie Mae Stone, 9, of 396 Piedmont Avenue, NE who was shot once through the neck about 10 a. m. on Tuesday at 184 Chestnut avenue, NE, and held for the fatality is Arthur Lee McMullen, 16 of the Chestnut avenue, NE, address, where the slaying occurred.

Investigating officers stated that on arrival at the scene of the shooting other city officers had taken the boy into custody and also had in their possession the rifle he used to slay the girl. They stated that the youth informed them the victim had struck him in the head with a half brick, and that he went to the kitchen of his home where the rifle was found loaded and returned with the gun to the front porch where the girl was. Officers said that the boy informed them he walked out on the porch and told the victim to "look out I am going to shoot," pulled the trigger once and the shot struck the small girl in the left side of her neck just below the ear.

2-20-45
PUT GUN BACK IN PLACE

Police stated that little McMullen said further that he then took the rifle back into the kitchen, carried the fatally wounded girl down two flights of stairs into the street. He said, officers claim, that he next went over to 181 Chestnut avenue, NE, across the street from his home and informed Julius Jordan, 80 of the later address, who was caring for the young victim for her mother for the day, too "call police because a truck has just run over Katie Mae."

It was learned that Jordan called officers, who called a Grady hospital ambulance, and notified the coroner. After investigating, police learned that the girl was not run down by a truck and injured, but had been shot. She was examined on the scene by a Grady hospital doctor and pronounced

dead on their arrival there. McMullen was then questioned and readily admitted that he had shot the girl to death after she struck him with a brick.

Flossie McMullen, 5, sister of the boy, informed officers that her brother had shot Katie Mae, and that she saw him do it. Officers stated that they made efforts Tuesday later to locate the parents of both children, but were not able to do so, having learned that they were away from their homes when the tragic shooting took place.

Young McMullen has been turned over to the juvenile home while further investigations are made, officers said.

4 Juveniles Slug Keeper In Escape From Milne Home

In a "break" which had all the outward appearances of the infamous "jail-breaks" of hardened criminals of the "big-house", Paul Faverite, 16 years, whose home address is 2303 Erato Street but confined to the Municipal Boys' Home of 5420 Franklin Avenue at the time, led three other lads whose names are not known at present in an escape from the Home late Saturday night, January 27.

At about 9:30 o'clock Saturday night, Joseph Steele, 61-year old keeper at the Home, was in the confinement ward on the second floor of the Home putting his charges to bed when one of the boys called from the bathroom asking for supplies. Steele obtained the desired commodity from the locker and was going to the bathroom when he was struck on the head and knocked unconscious with two bed slats which had been removed by Paul Faverite, one of the inmates. Faverite later stole Steele's wallet, containing \$10.00, and the keys to the Home from Steele's person as he lay prostrate on the floor.

Juvenile Delinquency

They then, Faverite and three others, opened the door leading to the ground floor and then escaped through a window. They were all clad in their underwear and a description was immediately broadcast over the police radio.

Steele was taken to Charity hospital in the Fifth Precinct patrol car and treated for lacerations of the scalp and possible fracture of the skull. His condition was said to be undertermined.

Negro Youth Gets 10 Years

Emilio Sanchez, Negro boy found guilty by an all-white jury recently in the Bronx County Court of raping 19-year-old Clara Sheweloff last November 11, was sentenced by Judge Lester W. Patterson yesterday to from 10 to 20 years in the State prison.

A committee of Bronx citizens immediately announced plans to file an appeal based on court records. The records are said to show strong reasons for doubting that the youth had a fair trial.

Thomas Dickens and Thornton Meacham, the youth's attorneys, will file the appeal notice.

Two Charged With Car Theft After Crash

Two boys, one 18, the other 14, were arrested yesterday after a stolen car collided with a parked car, the property of C. C. Massey, Henrico County manager.

The 18-year-old was listed as Edison Armstrong, Negro of the 1900 block East Main St. He was charged with stealing the car and is to be given a hearing in Police Court today. Armstrong was taken into custody shortly after the crash, which occurred about 10:30 A. M.

The 14-year-old, also a Negro, was picked up about 4:30 P. M. and held for Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. He was accused of being the driver of the car.

Police said the stolen car belonged to Edaloe Jones, Negro, of the 3000 block P St., and that the car was taken from Twentieth Street, between Main and Cary Streets, a few minutes before the

accident. Police said Mr. Massey's car was damaged to the extent of about \$25 and that the stolen car was damaged to the extent of about \$100.

Race Question, Juvenile Needs Get Cities' Care

CHICAGO—(AP)—The International City Managers Association, in its 1945 municipal year book, Monday described several types of municipal enterprise launched last year to combat juvenile delinquency and race tension and the problem of inadequate recreational facilities.

Hartford, Conn., set up a separate juvenile division in its police department, and at Durham, N. C., a department of recreation was established with year-round programs of supervised recreation and a director.

The report said by July, 1944, some 31 cities had set up municipal committees to improve interracial relations, and in 50 other cities unofficial citizens' interracial committees were established, some with approval and cooperation of city officials.

Mixed Teen-Age Canteen Solves Atlantic City's Juvenile Problem. Aids Democracy

By CLAY CLAIBORNE

ATLANTIC CITY. — (ANP)—Democracy not only works, but it "clicks" if there is a good swing band to throw everyone into jitterbugging.

This is proven at the Teen-Age canteen every Saturday night in the gymnasium at the Atlantic City high school. About a thousand boys and girls, fugitives for a 9:30 p.m. curfew, attend regularly. "Wood-cutting, not rug-cutting, takes place on the dance floor to the tune of the school's noontime band.

The Teen Age canteen was fostered by the junior class of the school, as an answer to the question, "What will eliminate juvenile delinquency? With the slogan, "Don't Be A Juvenile Delinquent." The junior class issued tickets of membership to school students encouraging them to participate in the canteen. Approval of the board of education granted them the right to hold the canteen every Saturday night in the gymnasium.

The board of education not only gave right-of-way, but furnishes the heat, light and janitor-service and has stipulated that there should be no gambling or drinking, except soda-pop, permitted in the school. There are two colored members of the Atlantic City board of education, Stanley Lucas and Judge Fred Delaney.

The whole responsibility of the canteen is on the shoulders of the students. Quiet lines of boys and girls wait their turns to check their coats and no violent combustion has occurred since the opening of the project.

Five donations of \$100 each have been received from the Avoda club, Kiwanis, Exchange, Lions and Rotary clubs, with the Serotomist club contributing \$50. The pupils attending pay a partial membership fee of 10 cents, which helps defray the expenses. Cola is sold for a nickel per bottle with interracial socializing going on that would make Mississippi turn up side down.

Conversations strictly on the solid side. "Get hep to the step," "Are you hard like lard?" and "That's mellow like a cello," are the down beats for conversing between dancing.

The informal dress of the dancers is usually sprinkled with the uniforms of the services, as many former pupils home on furlough gather to meet their former classmates. City Commissioner, Al Shahadi, has expressed the hope that more groups sponsor such movements to provide a place for the youth to congregate and promised that the city police department will cooperate in every way to insure the success of the canteen.

An advisory council of citizens is comprised of 10 members, Prof. T. Montgomery Gregory is the lone colored member of the council.

Hearing Set for Girl On Murder Charge

A hearing Saturday in Juvenile Court was set yesterday for Jessie Lee Moss, 15, Negro, charged with murder in the fatal stabbing of Jessie Reason, 17, Negro, 333 E. Liberty and formerly of Jeffersonville. She was arrested early yesterday following the death of the girl, who was stabbed in the neck Monday afternoon, following an argument at Pres-ton and Pearl.

NEGRO CRIME RISE LAID TO SLUMS, BIAS

New York Times
Delinquency Among Children
Called Social Problem by
Citizens Committee

While noting a comparative rise in delinquency among Negro children, the City-Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem in a report issued yesterday branded as "ludicrous" and a "myth" the generalization that Negroes were "criminalistic" and declared that the roots of crime were the same among all ethnic groups.

Responsibility for the increase was ascribed to conditioning factors, slums and discrimination, and not to the physical characteristics of a "generally law-abiding people." The report was prepared by Edwin J. Lukas, chairman of the sub-committee on crime and delinquency.

"Until the economic and social and political welfare of the Negro are improved," it said, "there will be no substantial diminution of crime and delinquency among Negroes. There is no delinquency and crime problem ascribable to the Negro as such; it is a problem chiefly involving the attitude of officialdom in particular and of society in general toward the Negro."

The most "shocking" of the statistics, according to the report, was that while the number of "neglected" white children was 24 per cent less for the first four months of this year than for the corresponding period in 1944, the number of "neglected" Negro children was 16 per cent greater.

In the more serious category of delinquency, Negro children reflected an increase of 9 per cent over 1943 in the same period that cases of white children dropped below 1943, the report said. The total of delinquent Negro children in the first four months of 1945 was 6 per cent greater than in the same portion of 1944.

Discrimination Amendment
The report declared that the race discrimination amendment adopted in 1942 had not fully solved the problem of placement of Negro children in institutions to aid them. Some institutions were said to be accepting Negro children only in "token quantity," while others were alleged to have "refused to alter their policy of discrimination." Still others, it was said, had reversed their former attitude of non-acceptance and had "discovered that these children live with white children in complete harmony in an intramural atmosphere."

The committee said it planned to meet with Welfare Commissioner Harry W. Marsh this week to "discuss ways to insure full compliance" with the amendment.

Other phases of the committee's activities in prevention and treatment were cited as extension of Big Brother work to Negro children, adequate probationary and psychiatric care for Negro children in the courts and schools and provision for playgrounds and community centers and play space in parks, to be extended in equal portion to Negro children for white children.

A city-wide Harlem Week sponsored by the committee will begin today. Tomorrow at a meeting in Town Hall the principal speaker will be Irving Ives, majority leader of the Assembly and sponsor of the State anti-discrimination bill bearing his name. A report will be submitted on the city's gains and goals in race relations.

'Butchered' His Sleeping Brother, 2 1/2

Bronx Boy Gives Himself
Up After Fiendish Crime;
He 'Wanted To Get Even'

By PETE RICHARDSON
A 14-year-old Junior High School boy appeared in Bronx Magistrate's Court Tuesday charged with the brutal slaying of his two-and-a-half-year-old brother Monday night as he lay asleep in his cot in their home at 724 E. 158th Street.

The killing took place within a block of the spot where, three weeks ago, Jesse Richardson, 13, 1019 Boston Road, was killed by a bullet from a rifle fired at him during a juvenile gang fight on 158th Street near Trinity Ave.

The boy, Lewis Oliver, is alleged by the police to have plunged a butcher knife deep into the body of his little brother, Harold, four times, and to have set his bed afire to make certain the child would die.

Gave Himself Up
The disclosure of the fiendish crime came to police of the Morrisania station about midnight Monday, April 2, when the young alleged killer walked into the station house and calmly and boldly stated:

"I just killed my kid brother." He was immediately taken into custody and detectives of the homicide squad hurried to the apartment where both boys lived with their mother at 724 E. 158th Street. There they found that firemen had preceded them and had extinguished a blaze which, but for their

alertness, threatened to destroy the entire four-room apartment.

Firemen were using oxygen in an attempt to revive the baby boy, believing that he was the victim of strangulation from smoke; but when they examined the body the four wounds were discovered and the boy was declared beyond aid.

Wanted To "Get Even"
Questioning Lewis as to his motive for committing the offense and desiring to get a complete word picture of events leading up to the tragedy, police drew from Lewis that his only desire was "to get even" with his mother because she wouldn't allow him to stay out as late as he wanted to, and because she was mean to him.

He said further that his brother was asleep on a bed they both shared when a desire to commit the deed struck him after stabbing the sleeping child once in the chest, he lifted him from the bed and took him into the bathroom, where he attempted to drown him in the bath tub. The cries from the infant checked him in this, he said, and he put him on the floor and plunged the butcher knife into his back three times. He placed the then lifeless form on the bed, got a match and set the mattress afire, and walked out of the apartment and gave himself up at the police station.

Awakened By Fire
During the time that these events were taking place in the apartment, a sister, Mrs. Caroline Critcher, who with her baby and husband occupy a room in the home, was asleep and was awakened only when the fire aroused her.

Mrs. Cornelia Oliver, mother of the two boys, is employed nightly by the National Biscuit Co. and was at work during the tragedy. Police notified her and she rushed home.

When Mrs. Oliver visited Lewis at the police station he wanted to know what she was doing there, and stated that he was glad to be where he was and hoped they would keep him there forever. It made no difference to him, he told her, what they did with him, and to add to her suffering he laughed boldly and turned his head away.

Lewis was arraigned in Bronx Magistrate's Court Tuesday morning and was remanded to jail to await the action of the grand jury.

May Be Electrocuted
It is doubtful that his case will be heard in the Children's Court, legal observers declared, pointing out the fact that the accused is subject to electrocution, despite his age, if found guilty of murder in the first degree. These observers pointed out also that the case has all the elements of first degree murder, the important element, premeditation, being present.

Harold's little body was taken to Fordham Morgue, where an autopsy was performed.

Was a Good Student
Lewis was a student at P. S. 51, the same school which Jesse Richardson attended. He was considered a good student. Recently he is alleged to have assaulted an adult with an iron pipe in the apartment building where he lived. He is also said to have been implicated in the burglarizing of an apartment. The case is still pending in Children's Court.

Workshop On Delinquency Is Conducted

Dr. Ira Reid
Recommends
Social Research

Speaking from the subject "Team work in Social and Economic Improvements," Dr. Ira De A. Reid opened the workshop on Delinquency, Some Basic Causes and Recommended Cures held at the First Congregational church Thursday evening under the auspices of the Atlanta Council of Negro Women.

Beginning his discourse with the acknowledgement that women are beginning to study and attempting to solve broad social problems, he commended the Council for its effort. His steps for social research included: (1) Knowledge-ability to answer the "whys." (2) Belief-ability to follow convictions and (3) Action—"doing something about it."

Using a diagrammed housing map he pointed out the areas in which Atlantans lived and indicated that Delinquency, Crime illness, death and birth were pronounced in those areas with sub-standard homes. Tracing the problems back to the sum total of everything—recreation income, social control, police protection, etc., he recommended a re-order to institute change.

PROBLEM APPROACH
He advocated that the problem of delinquency be approached from individual offenders, problems existing due to our bi-racial pattern, mass attack on the whole problem and sound judgment. Granting that "as long as a man and society is society we will have delinquency," he urged that we eradicate some of the current evils less they eradicate us.

Introductory remarks were given by Mrs. Julia Pate Borders, the president and Dr. E. Beulah Winston presided. Invocation was given by Rev. Wilkes and benediction by Rev. Garnett.

FINDINGS GIVEN
Following an hour work-shop period there was another assembly during which time the findings were given by Dean Brazeal, Mrs. A. L. Davis, Dr. Lowery and Dr. Kalibala.

Workshop A gave the following conclusions: Establishment of a sex program with emphasis on sex nobility; indulgence in wholesome activity to utilize excess energy; extension of youth serving agencies to accommodate more children; inclusion of more trained workers in health education and vocational guidance for public schools and constant action on the bi-racial pattern existent in the South, which denies Negroes their fundamental rights.

Workshop B recommended that: homes strive to produce better all-round personalities, nurturing children in love and complete protection; that keener interest should be taken in welfare agencies, which administer to the needs of the community, more resources should be allocated to meet these vital needs, laymen should avoid laxness in setting good examples, that the County Home for Boys should be investigated, more parent education should be given in PTA's and churches, and the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill will help Georgia enlarge its program for aid.

PROPER GUIDANCE
Workshop C concluded: that proper religious and social guidance to be given adolescents, for inner fortitude, that wholesome attitudes be created, that environments be improved, that confidence be established between parents and children, that churches change attitude toward children, and keep abreast with developments of children in programs; that should be shared responsibility with more family altars and minister's visits; that there should be exposure to proper movies, radio programs and leaders should be included.

comics and more understanding
Workshop D recommended: supervised organized play; intelligent interpretation of wholesome enjoyment; inclusion of good literature; more responsibility on the church; elimination of second-rate pictures; more children, and a greater responsibility of parents.
Dr. Glenn Rainey conducted the closing panel. He stressed the need of constant work on our problems, a greater evaluation of our power and the development of a humanitarian philosophy of helping our neighbor. He advised intelligent use of pressure and admonished his hearers against persons posing for friends. He predicted that the next generation would be able to vote. A discussion followed with questions from the floor.

Across The Desk

By LUDLOW W. WERNER

BOY GANGS

Back in September, I wrote a series of columns on the subject of Boy Gangs who have been plaguing all of us. The series caused quite some comment in school, social and police circles. The other night, I was talking with a police official and he was commenting on the columns.

This police official recalled that in October I had written about a youthful gang leader who had been in serious trouble with police, but each time had been lucky enough to get out of it through some kindly (but misguided) judge.



I wrote at the time in discussing this particular boy:

"It seems, this police man told me, that he was called into a place of public accommodation (I am purposely being ambiguous as to places so that the policeman may fight. The rookie was not far from the scene and when he heard shooting, hastened to the scene. He saw several youngsters running and gave chase after one of them. The other day, the police official told me, the youngster was brought into the station house by a rookie policeman after an other youngster had been shot at in a street. The rookie had to go down into a dark cellar after the youngster he was chasing and he knew that the youth had a gun. Yet after his quarry the policeman went. In the cellar the policeman with gun in one hand and flashlight in the other finally found the youngster hiding in a coal bin. The gun was a few feet away where the young 'punk' had thrown it. An arrest was made by the rookie without anyone being shot or hurt. In court, the young 'punk' was freed the other day on his own recognizance. The rookie came up from court thoroughly disgusted, and then from all patrolmen heard the youth's background. Said the police official: 'That young kid was damn lucky the rookie didn't kill him when he ran away carrying a smoking gun. But it just goes to show you how cockeyed our courts can be in cases like this. This kid is a bad one beyond a shadow of a doubt and yet the

not be identified) by a proprietor who was having trouble with some youngsters. The policeman went into the business place and running and gave chase after one of them. The proprietor pointed out the ring-leader who held a smoking gun. The ring-leader was no stranger to the policeman because he was leader of one of the more powerful juvenile gangs.

"The gang leader who had been in trouble before but each time had been let off by some kindly (but misguided) judge, started to show off before his gang when the patrolman told him what the score was. This policeman is a mild-tempered but he stands for no back-talk front even adults, let alone a juvenile. When being nice to the gang-leader was productive of nothing more than sneers and laughter, the policeman used his fist as a persuader.

"When the youngster, spurred on by his followers, attempted to 'jump' the policeman, the law-enforcing officer went into action in real earnest. A thoroughly chastened and beaten youngster was taken to the police station where the arresting officer preferred

courts won't do anything to him until he finally kills someone some day. Is that justice? Must someone be killed first before a killer is taken away from society?"

Those questions of the police official are fair ones. Must our courts wait until the horse is out of the stable before locking it?

a multiplicity of charges, any one of which should have sufficed in any court. But when the case came up in court several days later, the judge acted as if the policeman was on trial.

"What as the result? The judge freed the youth with a warning to 'be good', and the policeman left thoroughly disgusted with 'justice.' When the youngster came back uptown to Harlem, he became even more of a hero to his followers than ever before. He was a hero because he had had another 'brush with the law' but had been freed in court. He was, in the thinking of his followers, 'untouchable'.

"When our courts dispense that kind of 'justice' is there any wonder that juvenile delinquency is on the increase?"

That youngster has had several scrapes

with the law since that column appeared, and each time has been let off with a warning. The other day, the police official told me, the youngster was brought into the station house by a rookie policeman after another youngster had been shot at in a street. The rookie had to go down into a dark cellar after the youngster he was chasing and he knew that the youth had a gun. Yet after his quarry the policeman went. In the cellar the policeman with gun in one hand and flashlight in the other finally found the youngster hiding in a coal bin. The gun was a few feet away where the young "punk" had thrown it. An arrest was made by the rookie without anyone being shot or hurt. In court, the young "punk" was freed the other day on his own recognizance. The rookie came up from court thoroughly disgusted, and then from all patrolmen heard the youth's background. Said the police official: "That young kid was damn lucky the rookie didn't kill him when he ran away carrying a smoking gun. But it just goes to show you how cockeyed our courts can be in cases like this. This kid is a bad one beyond a shadow of a doubt and yet the

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Across The Desk

by LUDLOW W. WERNER

The New York Age New York New York 9-22-45

BOY GANGS — Last week's column was written the day after a unique meeting of boy gangs and their leaders at Junior High School 136. It was an unique gathering, I wrote, because "gathered in the same auditorium of the school, and sitting attentively listening to the program were members of gangs who are deadly enemies of one another and who in the past have shown no compunction in stabbing and killing, if need be, members of rival groups."

I ended the column with the observation that "I was deeply impressed with the messages but as I sat and watched the faces of the youngsters, I doubted seriously that they had the intelligence or the desire to be anything but what they are — a bunch of 'punks'."



When I wrote that column, I wondered if I were not being guilty of the common error of considering other boys just because they are members of rival gangs.

the past were known to be bad that there was little hope that they would be in good in the future. I almost tore the column up

because after reading it over twice, I wondered if I weren't passing hasty judgment on the youngsters. After reading it over the third time, I decided to let the column ride and the chips fall where they may.

If there was going to be some social workers' bureau of the point of view I expressed, then there would just have to be criticism.

Then, lo and behold, on Friday night, the kids went to work in earnest and had a fight on 142nd street, between Seventh and Lenox avenues, in which shots were fired. Police have no record of such a fight, but residents of the street vouch for the fact that they were awakened in the middle of the night by these youngsters fighting. Apparently, however, the shots went wild because there is no record of any youngster raising "hell" all over again.

having been shot.

And to cap the climax, on Saturday night, on the same street, but this time between Seventh and Eighth avenues, a 17-year-old youth, said to be a member of the "Sabers" gang, was shot in front of his own house by five boys identified as members of the "Slicksters" gang. The five alleged assailants were quickly arrested by police, but in this writing, the guns they used have not been found.

There can be no denying that these youngsters are members of highly disciplined gangs, when even their guns disappear almost under the eyes of police. Nor can there be any denying the fact that this community faces a bleak future in the pattern these kids have set is allowed to continue. Certainly, boys will belong to gangs or clubs; it's a natural tendency, which all boys

It's a dismal picture, but the future in Harlem is alarming. Personally, I favor letting the police do their job without their hands being tied as long as they are right in what they are doing. No one dislikes police brutality more than I do, but teen-age gangsters are entitled to no special privileges and should not be treated as if they are helping the community by using gangster tactics. We can ill afford to condone the activities of these gangs any longer. If protest we must, then let the protest be against inactivity rather than police activity. Let's let the world know that Harlem doesn't allow everything to go.

Across The Desk

By LUDLOW W. WERNER

AN INDICTMENT

the New York Age N.Y., N.Y.
From Pitts-
burgh, Pa., Ebenezer Ray, who formerly wrote the feature column, "Dottings of a Paragraph," for The New York Age, has been doing some thinking on the subject of boy gangs, and has sent the following column as his contribution to the subject: 10-6-45

AN INDICTMENT

By Ebenezer Ray

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—From this city I am viewing, without alarm, the reign of gangsterism among Negro youth in Harlem and the Bronx.

Much of the evils that exist in these United States can be blamed on its people. "The American people" are different from other people, according to a popular boast.

An undeniable reason why many teen-age



youngsters develop into gangsters is because the rod has been spared in their earlier days. The little angels in their tender years are "too sweet" to their parents even to be spoken to harshly. When taken on a visit to a friend's home

they often leave it virtually in shambles by their misconduct. It is laughable, in an ironic sort of way, to hear many an incorrigible boast that he or she has never been spanked by his or her parents. 10-6-45

When the precious little bums go to school they dare Teacher to reprimand them; and if the potential gunman isn't big enough to tackle Teacher one of his doting parents usually goes to the school and threatens to sweep the floor with Teacher if he or she were to lay a finger on their little bum. Hence school teachers appear to merely await their pay-checks, while Brother and Sister leave school with so little education it is alarming.

The horse-operas, shown in two-bit neighborhood movie houses, in which the two-gun hombre with the big sombrero comes into town and shoots down his enemies and gets the town's belle as reward, have their bad influence too. 10-6-45

Some years ago when my twisted thinking indulged in columning for The New York Age I advocated corporal punishment from the courts for the malicious use of sharp-edged weapons. A reader wrote that he would have enjoyed "hanging Mr. Ray by his suspenders" for that. "A sadist," he said I was. I'd probably share the same "fate" now, but for the fact that folks are scared as to whose son or daughter will be next on the receiving end of the Slicksters' or the Sabers' or the Punks' rods.

However, it is my unrelenting opinion that the punishment should fit the crime.

Weeping on the shoulders of these gunmen will never solve the problem; neither will short terms in prison, where they have time to play ball and whistle at female passersby, in the presence of guards. The psychiatrists and the sociologist have failed. New York's legislators must come to the aid of its decent citizens—young and old.

Inasmuch as a law was enacted to curb assault with switch-blade knives, a law should be enacted making unlawful use of firearms punishable with flogging. One flogging with a cat-o-nine tails on entering prison and another just before leaving would disband New York's young hoodlums. 10-6-45

I think it's the Bible that declares: "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed." New York's legislators should look it up—and act accordingly.

Mrs. Peterson said yesterday that no member of the Police Department has yet gone to the hospital to get Albert's statement of the burning. The only contact the police have had with the hospital, she declared, has been by phone.

"If the boy dies without going to court," Mrs. Peterson said, "there'll be no record of what he said but only of what I said."

MAY NOT LIVE

The case was adjourned by Judge Herbert A. O'Brien a second time in the Children's Court, Jamaica, on Oct. 2, the reason being that Albert would have to appear in person. Mrs. Peterson said she felt that the court ought to get the boy's testimony at the hospital, since there is no assurance that he will live.

The Petersons' attorney told the Daily Worker yesterday that "if the boy recovers and if the case is backed by testimony on his part and by testimony by others who saw the alleged burning by the Shilling boy," then Bobby Shilling can be arrested.

He added that if Albert "got to be in a critical condition" the police would hasten "to get a statement from him." 10-6-45

The hospital yesterday declared that the boy is in a critical condition and has been since he was admitted there Aug. 22.

Bobby Shilling, the attorney admitted, has "an unsavory reputation" in the Holland community. The boy was said by Gutman to have "a record of delinquency in school."

Neighbors say that Bobby two years ago held the foot of little Cissy Jacobs in a fire "until you count ten." The little girl's parents

confirmed this story when questioned by the Daily Worker. They said they would gladly appear in court as witness for the Petersons.

Jack Shilling vowed on Sept. 26 that he would willingly give "all my blood" to save Albert's life. Mrs. Peterson retorted yesterday that neither Shilling nor his wife had yet called on her nor offered in any way to help her since their son allegedly burned Albert nearly 10 weeks ago.

The little patient has had three blood transfusions and may, according to his mother, require more. The Petersons' attorney admitted that he himself has not yet visited Albert in the hospital. This fact was also a cause of complaint by the sick boy's mother. 10-6-45

"I want to see that Shilling boy arrested and taken to court," Albert's mother said. "Why don't the police do something?"

Mother Charges Police Still Refuse To Act on Burning of 11-Year Son

By EUGENE GORDON 10-6-45

Mrs. Hattie Peterson, mother of 11-year-old Albert, on the critical list at the Harlem Hospital from body burns suffered on July 28, complained again to the Daily Worker yesterday that the police are doing nothing in the case.

Albert Peterson, as related in the Daily Worker on Oct. 1, was so badly burned from ignited cigarette-lighter fluid on July 28 that the flesh "just hung off him in layers." Bobby Shilling, 15, of Holland, Queens, is said to have admitted

The Petersons, Negroes, and the Shillings, white, live near each other on Beach 86, Holland, Queens, which is on the Rockaway Park line of the Long Island Railroad. Peterson drives a truck for a coal company. Shilling is a member of the police department.

Land of the Noble Free

By
LAYLE LANE

The New York Age *New York, N.Y.*

"**B**EAR down on the see-saw at this end and its bound to kick up at the other" is the figurative way a friend has of expressing his belief that we should plow and cultivate the Negro field first, in order to secure the most effective and desirable social changes. While there are limitations to this policy, it is fundamentally sound.

Certainly, we must find a way to bear down on the growing lawlessness among our young people by creating such conditions of living as will make them dissatisfied with the excitement of violence. *12-1-45*

This lawlessness, growing out of insecure economic conditions and also out of personal and social situations which de-

prive the individual of any sense of his own importance, is finding various ways of expressing itself. One of its most unfortunate manifestations is anti-white prejudice, mainly anti-Semitism, which is a reflection of the growing anti-Semitism in the country and of the "taking it out on somebody" attitude as well.

Several incidents are reported in the press and two others have come to my personal attention. *12-1-45*

A teacher in a junior high in a well-to-section of New York reports the hold-up methods practiced mainly by Negro boys on several of the Jewish students. The method, of course did not originate with Negroes; neither is it confined only to them. The practice is to ask a pupil for the loan of a quarter or more. If the money is not forthcoming a beating is, so the students come across with the money, knowing full well the inadvisability of ever asking for its return. So terrified are the victims of this practice that they are very reluctant to report any incidents to the school officials.

The other incident was the unprovoked

and unwarranted beating of a Jewish lad who writes: "I was on my way home from work and was walking along 161st street between Amsterdam avenue and Broadway, as I live at 160th street and Broadway. About half-way down the block a group of about 5 or 6 colored boys around 17 years of age approached me and surrounded me. One of the boys said, 'What are you doing walking down this street? I didn't get a chance to answer as they started hitting me. About ten other boys came along and shouted 'A white boy?' Then they joined in the beating." *12-1-45*

Broken glasses and a broken nose resulted. The only redeeming feature about the incident was that a Negro woman and some other Negro boys stopped the attack. Perhaps that is why Jack Wasserman, the boy who was beaten, can view the incident with the detachment and calm that his superior intellect make possible.

"I don't hold the beating against these boys, as I can understand they must have been taught by their parents or friends to hate all whites (for good cause, I'm sure) but I believe they should be made to realize that it isn't the white man in general they should be fighting against. Rather they should be fighting against those people, both black and white, who have exploited Negro and white workers and enforced jim crow



Across The Desk

By
LUDLOW W. WERNER

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY—A

The New York Tribune

continuing increase in the number allegedly delinquency children brought before the Domestic Relations Court was reported in an analysis of the record of the court's children's division since 1943. The statement also showed a decline in the number of neglected children appearing in court.

During the first nine months of this year some 5,406 alleged delinquents were reached in Greater New York, while in the same period in 1944 the figure was 5,129 and in 1943 some 4,906. With more boys than girls being apprehended in every borough, the court's statistics showed that, despite local variations, the number of girl delinquents has decreased. This year, so far, 4,655 boys appeared in the court, compared with 751 girls; while in 1943 there were 3,947 boys and 959 girls. **10-13-45**



The largest rise, the statistics showed, took place in the background of the youngster charged with delinquency remained more or less constant. Figures for neglected children indicate a sharp reduction compared with a year ago, when the city-wide total reached 2,042 in the first nine months. This year, so far, the number stands at 1,592, which is substantially lower than the 1943 total of 1,897.

These last figures are encouraging, because despite the war-time dislocations, apparently fewer parents shirked their responsibilities than in the lush years of 1943 and 1944. Let us hope that this is a sign that more and more parents will return to the home and to continue to function as parents should.

What is alarming, though, is the continuing increase in the number of delinquent children being brought before the courts. Residents of Harlem, the Bronx, and Brook-

lyn do not need statistics to show this to be so, because the frequent clashes between gangs of boys are direct evidence of the increasing delinquency. **10-13-45**

What is more alarming, though, is the attitude many policemen are assuming about the whole matter of juvenile delinquency. I talked with a policeman the other day about the problem of juvenile delinquents and what he told me, if followed by other brother officers, means that we are in for real trouble from these juvenile delinquents, many of whom are really small-time gangsters. **10-13-45**

It seems, this policeman told me, that he was called into a place of public accommodation (I am purposely being ambiguous as to places so that the policeman may not be identified) by a proprietor who was having trouble with some youngsters. The policeman went into the business place and the proprietor pointed out the ring-leader of the troublesome youngsters. The ring-leader was no stranger to the policeman because he was the leader of one of the more powerful juvenile Bronx, and the racial gangs.

The gang leader, who had been in trouble before but each time had been let off by some kindly (but misguided) judge, started to show off before his gang when the policeman told him what the score was. This policeman is a mild-tempered man but he stands for no back-talk from even adults let alone a juvenile. When being nice to the gang-leader was productive of nothing more than sneers and laughter, the policeman used his fist as a persuader.

When the youngster, spurred on by his followers, attempted to "jump" the policeman, the law-enforcing officer went into action in real earnest. A thoroughly chastened and beaten youngster was taken to the police station where the arresting officer preferred a multiplicity of charges, any one of which should have sufficed any court. But when the case came up in court several days later, the judge acted as if the policeman was on trial. **10-13-45**

What was the result? The judge freed the youth with a warning to "be good," and the policeman left thoroughly disgusted with "justice." When the youngster came back

uptown to Harlem, he became even more of a hero to his followers than ever before. He was a hero because he had had another "brush with the law" but had been freed in court. He was, in the thinking of his followers "untouchable."

When our courts dispense that kind of "justice," is there any wonder that juvenile delinquency is on the increase?

Hoodlum Gang Causes Death of Boy Victim

Peoples Voice

Harlem faced serious race tension in Washington Heights Wednesday afternoon when death and injury of two Negro youths resulted from juvenile gangster conflict. Young Thomas Whitefred, 1115 Prospect av, and William Johnson, 2746 8th av, were chased from a candy store on the southwest corner of 152 st and Broadway about 4 pm Wednesday by 25 members of the Graveyard Boys, a white youths' gang. The fleeing youths were struck by a passing car. The large black touring car, part of a return-

ing funeral cortage, killed Whitefred instantly and sent Johnson, seriously injured, to a hospital.

Alex Truman Saunders, an eyewitness to the chase and the injury, lives at 534 W 152 st. Saunders' story of the incident and conditions existing in the neighborhood between Negro and white youths, corroborates those from other sources as well as stories that have come to the *People's Voice*. Saunders says these youth battles happen almost nightly in the neighborhood, but not until the accident has there been a vigilant police patrol of the area.

Wednesday night after the accident, members of the Graveyard Boys threw bottles from a rooftop overlooking 152 st and created a panic among the neighborhood and people in the street. Some report that gangs of these white boys, armed with clubs and bottles, challenge passing Negroes from the east side of Broadway. This condition has gone on for nearly a year, according to reports. As a result of the threats, Negro boys have formed several gangs, variously known as the Sticklers, Cobras, and Comanches. These boys insist that they have formed the gangs for self-protection, and now because the condition has not been improved by police or community activity, these three Negro youth gangs have threatened to consolidate. 7-7-45

Many of the white boys, it is said, belong to St. Catherine

Outlaw JC at School for Delinquent Boys

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK—When Robert L. Cooper, specialist in criminology and juvenile delinquency, was offered the executive directorship at the Wiltwyck School for Boys in 1942, he accepted on one condition: that the school also accept white boys.

Cooper realized his aims about a year and a half ago, when a non-discriminatory amendment was passed by the city council. It was followed by admittance of the first white boy to the school.

Today, the Wiltwyck School, located in the center of a 485-acre estate in Esopus, N.Y., has 75 colored and 5 white boys. Most of them are retarded from two to five grades and have been shifted from school to school in the city before being sent there. Their ages range between 8 and 12.

Aim of Readjustment

The aim of the school and its interracial staff is to readjust these boys so that they can return to their families and resume normal lives.

"We do not anticipate any quota and we pay no attention to color," Cooper told the AFRO. "The whole business has tremendous significance to me. If it can work with colored and white delinquents, there can be little question as to its success with normal children."

Of his staff he said:

"When we seek employees, we look for the best qualified for the job. There is no such thing as an all-colored job. Our board of directors is completely interdenominational and represents the

most liberal people in the country.

"Children are recommended to us by NYC children's courts. There are so many on the waiting list that we often have to turn down certain cases when we feel that other agencies can care for them. This leaves vacancies for those boys who need our help most."

He explained that the city department of Welfare gives the Wiltwyck School a subsidy of one-third for each child. The rest of the money has to come from foundations and individuals. The cost for the upkeep of each boy annually is \$1,000.

"I visualize the school as being a people's school and supported by people of all means," Cooper stated. "That is the kind of financing we like."

School Is Open

"Our school is completely wide open—no fences, no shrubbery. Most other institutions have run-away problems. We pay special attention to creating a warm and inviting environment. We respect a boy's integrity as a human being and give him understanding."

The length of stay at the school is determined by consultants. The average stay is two years. After a child returns home, a trained case worker follows him up.

Wiltwyck was once a servants' quarters for a nearby estate. It has a gym, a clinic, swimming pools, and picnic grounds. The living quarters consist of four cottages, each housing 20 boys.

Native of N.C.

Cooper, who was born in Washington, N.C., thirty-six years ago, studied sociology and psychology at Virginia Union University. In

1933, he received his master's degree from Boston University in social work. 4-28-45

He did a year of research in the State prison colony at Norfolk, Mass., and then received an appointment at the New York State Training School for Boys in Warwick, N.Y. Eight years later, he was in complete charge of 1,000 boys on parole. Then he came to Wiltwyck.

He is married and the father of an adopted daughter, Lisle, 2. He is now working on his Ph.D. in education at New York University. He is studying to be a research expert in crime prevention.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

NEWS

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JUL 21 1945

Youth Killed, 17 Jailed In Street Gang Fights

A series of pitched street battles between rival gangs of teen-aged Negroes which ranged over a mile-square area of the Bedford-Stuyvesant section Wednesday, resulting in the death of one youth and the arrest of 17 others, was disclosed yesterday by Brooklyn police. Police did not report the wholesale disturbances until they had finished an investigation and made the arrests.

The fights broke out at 7:30 P. M. Wednesday and soon spread, with the main battles centered around Nostrand and Jefferson Aves., Summer and Gate Aves. and Bedford Ave. and Union Place. Weapons used by members of the "Robins" and "Bishops" included home-made guns, knives, blackjacks, baseball bats, and refuse can handles used as brass knuckles.

Eight youths were taken to Swedish, Cumberland St. and St. John's hospitals from pool rooms, bars, stores and street corners.

Police said the fights were precipitated by a beating administered last week by a Bishop to a Robin. However, residents of the section claim that mass street fighting by armed Negro gangs is a commonplace occurrence.

The dead youth was John Green, 16-year-old Bishop, of 163 Lefferts Ave. Two 16-year-old Robins have been charged with homicide in his death. They are Edward Andrews, of 392 Madison St., on parole from

a 1944 juvenile delinquency charge involving use of a gun, and Harold Malone, of 653 Monroe St.

Twelve others were arrested on charges of inciting to riot, while three were booked on juvenile delinquency and turned over to the Children's Society.

Arrest 17 Youths After Boy Is Killed In Gang War In Brooklyn; Find Another Fatally Stabbed

N. Y. Age

The arrest of 17 youths, two of them on homicide charges, followed a series of pitched street fights between rival gangs of teenage youths in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, Wednesday, in which one youth was killed.

7-28-45

The fight, between members of the "Robins" and the "Bishops", covered a mile-square area, centering around Nostrand and Jefferson avenues, Sunmer and Gates avenues and at times on Bedford avenue and Clifton place. Homemade pistols were fired and blackjacks, knives, baseball bats, bottles and the handles of refuse cans—used as brass knuckles—were used during the fight between the two rival gangs.

When the fighting was over, Wednesday, night, the body of John Robert Green, 16, of 165 Lefferts place was found at 11:30 o'clock in a hallway at 164 Jefferson avenue. He had been stabbed to death.

Charged with homicide in his death were two members of the "Robins", identified as Edward Andrews, 16, of 392 Madison street, out on parole from a 1944 juvenile delinquency charge involving the use of a revolver, and Harold Malone, 16, of 653 Monroe street. Malone was also charged with felonious assault on a complaint signed by Milton Hardy, 15, who charged that on Wednesday night he was stabbed with a knife in the right side by Malone.

Police said the fighting was precipitated by a beating administered last week by the "Bishops" to Malone who is known as "The Little Fox." Before scores of detectives and police radio cars had quelled the fighting it had spread to six different locations in three hours.

Eight youths were removed to the Swedish, Cumberland Street and St. John's Hospitals. The police immediately rounded up several members of each gang, and

then following information supplied to them by youths with aliases of "Crazy Horse," "Soapy," and "Bones", 17 youths were arrested and turned over to the Childrens Society. 12 were charged with inciting to riot, while the others were charged with juvenile delinquency and turned over to the Children's Society. They were arraigned before Magistrate Alfred Lindau in Brooklyn Adolescents Court and will be given a further hearing on Wednesday.

Andrews and Malone were arraigned on the homicide charge before Magistrate Abner C. Surpless and were held without bail for hearing on Tuesday.

Gunshot Wound Fatal To Boy: Another Lad Held For Homicide

N. Y. Age
N. Y. Age
7-28-45
George Wright, 17, of 235 West 146th street, died in Harlem Hospital, Monday at 3 p. m., victim of a gunshot wound of the abdomen.

Wright was shot accidentally at midnight, March 30th, in front of the building at 301 West 141st street, when he and a group of youths were playing with the weapon. He was taken to Harlem Hospital and placed on the serious list.

Arrested and held on charges of homicide was a youth identified as James Dove, also 17, of 273 West 132nd street. The arrest was made on Monday and he was taken into courts as The New York Age went to press.

40 Negro Youths Disrupt V-J Block Party With Knives and Bottles—14 Are Arrested

N. Y. Age
N. Y. Age
New York Times
Forty Negro youths, operating in the fashion of a Harlem neighborhood gang, disrupted a block party in celebration of V-J Day on 118th Street between Third and Lexington Avenues early yesterday morning, stabbing several of the 300 celebrants, throwing bottles about and endangering women

and children, and flashing knives. The rowdiness, which included attempts to intimidate youths and even adults of the neighborhood—the residents of which are chiefly of Italian and Spanish extraction—into giving up wrist watches and packages of cigarettes, came to an end at 1 A. M. only when several squads of police and detectives came to the scene and dispersed the hoodlums, making fourteen arrests. *9-3-45*

Later the police of the East 126th Street Station sought to minimize the incident. No reports of the injured were available. A committee of residents of the block in charge of the celebration asserted, however, that one boy of the neighborhood received an open cut over the left eye and was treated at the Hospital for Joint Diseases near by, and that another was treated for a cut.

Four radio patrol cars and one cruising car manned by detectives were assigned to the area last night.

The residents said the youths, who were from 14 to 17 years, came to the block party about midnight. They asked for beer, and it was given them. Then a group surrounded an elderly man and woman and demanded the man's watch in a threatened manner. The man had a dog, however, that was no intimidated and the animal's growls scared the group away. They pulled the same trick on a 14-year-old boy, hitting him in the eye when he refused to give up a wrist watch. *9-3-45*

Then, the residents said, the leader of the gang summoned his followers and they began throwing bottles and flashing knives. At this point the lone patrolman on duty called the radio cars.

Seven of the boys were held on juvenile delinquency charges for a hearing in Children's Court tomorrow. Of the other seven, six were released for lack of evidence by Magistrate Abraham M. Bloch in Week-end Court. The other, Orlando Moreno, 16, of 166 East 119th Street, was found guilty of disorderly conduct and committed to Youth House pending further investigation.

Juvenile Gangs Continue Fights; Two Boys Stabbed To Death; Third Dies When Shot Down By Detective

The New York Age *9-28-45*
N. Y.

Juvenile delinquents, members of "street corner" clubs (a new name for gangs) continued to make news this week with three youths dead, two in gang fights and a third shot by police as he drew a knife on an arresting officer.

The two youths were fatally stabbed early Saturday when they were set upon by gangs of boys. The third youth was shot to death on Monday by police.

Shortly after midnight, Friday, a youth identified as Henry Tolliver, 16, of 516 Manhattan avenue, was attacked in front of 352 West 123rd street when he emerged into the street after a visit in the house. Rushed to Sydenham Hospital, almost across the street, he died shortly before 1 a. m., from a stab wound under the heart. *9-28-45*

About a half-hour later, another youth, Edward Huggins, 17, of 54 West 99th street, was attacked one door away from his home, while he was enroute home. The brawl attracted temporary Patrolman Earl Brown to the scene, but the gang fled before the policeman could apprehend anyone. The policeman found the mortally wounded youth lying on the sidewalk with a stab wound over the heart. Rushed to Knickerbocker Hospital in an ambulance, he was pronounced dead.

The third youth to die was identified as George Allen, 15, of 274 West 117th street. On Monday, four detectives went to his home to arrest him as a parole violator from Warwick State School. The youth fled his home via a fire escape to the roof with detectives after him. When they reached the roof, one detective fired a shot over the youth's head as a warning shot. Instead of surrendering, the youth is said to have drawn a knife.

Detective Samuel Bronstein fired at the youth, hitting him in the right hip, severing an artery. Bleeding profusely but still determined to escape, the youth fled down a stairway and collapsed. Rushed to Sydenham Hospital, he died at 9:55 a. m., from loss of blood, nearly an hour after the shooting.

The youth had been visiting home on a weekend pass and failed to return to the institution on time, so police went after him, authorities said. *9-12-45*

Youth Killed By Policeman In The Bronx As Gang Fighting Breaks Out For Second Time In As Many Weeks

The New York Age
The New York Times
Patrolman Edward Haran and William Hebecki, of the Simpson street police station, broke up the gun fight near Union avenue and Jennings street, the Bronx, in which about 25 youths figured. Dorsett turned around and fired at Patrolman Haran, the bullet going wild. The policeman then fired at the youth killing him instantly.

9-22-45
In the second gang fight among juveniles in as many weeks in the Bronx, a 17-year-old youth was killed when he failed to halt when ordered by a policeman and instead turned to fire at the officer. The youth, identified as Norman Dorsett, 17, of 755 East 168th street, was killed at 3 a. m. Sunday when he was fleeing from the scene of the gang fight and had fired at the patrolman.

42-1945

South Carolina

Facilities Needed For Care of Negro Problem Children

Facilities for the care and treatment of negro problem children are badly needed in South Carolina, Mrs. Margaret W. Guerard, director of the Charleston county welfare department, declared yesterday.

8-15-45
Mrs. Guerard cited the case of a boy just eight years old, who has been arrested several times recently for larceny, grand larceny and housebreaking. Brought to the attention of the child welfare bureau, the boy was placed in an excellent boarding home in Summerville. He ran away after a few days, and was next found hiding in a store in Charleston. Picked up by the police, he was retained temporarily in jail. At present, it is not known just where he is, but case workers predict that he will be reported shortly in some misdemeanor.

8-15-45
"A child like that has definite criminal tendencies," the welfare director asserted. "At the rate he is going now, he will continue to be involved in scrapes until he does something serious enough to be placed in the reformatory. When he is released from there, according to similar case histories, he will probably commit a crime which will send him to the penitentiary."

Institutional care, Mrs. Guerard said, averages at least \$300 per year, and many persons who start a career of crime as children spend at least 20 years in institutions, costing the state about \$6,000.

"A child that young can't be so emeshed in crime that he can't be reached. He needs psychiatric care in a good correctional institutional. Without it, the chances for his becoming anything but a liability to the state and society are small."

Asking the question: Just what is society's responsibility to a child like that, Mrs. Guerard declared that voters would probably be shocked if asked to spend \$1,000 on psychiatric care for this child now, but that they give little thought to the thousands of dollars penitentiary inmates are costing the state today.

8-15-45
"There aren't enough facilities to care for the problem white child, and there are none for negroes," she said.

Asked what she would recommend, the welfare director mentioned large scale child guidance clinics, good correctional state institutions and a larger staff of trained workers with the welfare department.